

# Expand Your Vocabulary with Abiding Words



## PASSION

Right out of the gate we realize “abide” has a strong variety of meanings. Translations such as “remain,” “continue,” “reside,” “live,” and “dwell” provide dimensions into a deeper understanding of “abide.” We live in a culture where *doing* is our go-to approach to incorporating something like “*abiding*” in our lives. Certainly, we can “do” some things that would help us abide, but often we equate the *doing* with the *abiding*. In other words, we are abiding when we pray and/or fast. Possibly. Perhaps we abide when we have our quiet time in the morning. Maybe. These practices lack fullness in that they confine us to the activity itself, when abide is more of a constant lifestyle. Perhaps the *doing* is a means to the end of *abiding*.



## PROBE

I've selected some words, certainly not exhaustive, to lean us more into the realm of “*being*” rather than “*doing*” in regard to abiding. Highlight as many of these words as you prefer that help you describe abiding.

Abode	Consideration	Faith	Lifestyle	Quiet	Still
Absorbed	Constant	Family	Linger	Receive	Stop
Accept	Contemplate	Fascinated	Linked	Reflect	Strength
Accepted	Content	Favorite	Listen	Relational	Stunned
Acknowledge	Continue	Feeling	Living	Relax	Subconscious
Agree	Continuous	Filled	Loiter	Release	Sufficiency
Alert	Conversation	Fixated	Lost	Reliance	Supported
Alignment	Coupled	Focused	Love	Remain	Surrender
Anticipate	Dedicated	Freedom	Means	Remember	Tenacity
Assurance	Deliberate	Full	Meditate	Repose	Thoughtful
Attention	Dependence	Gardener	Mindful	Reside	Time
Attentive	Desire	Gripped	Motivated	Residence	Tranquil
Authority	Determined	Grounded	Natural	Resolute	Trust
Aware	Devotion	Grow	Normal	Resource	Turn towards
Being	Dignity	Guidance	Observant	Responsive	Unbroken
Believe	Dwell	Harmony	Obsessed	Rest	Unceasing
Belong	Ease	Health	Occupied	Return	Understand
Blessed	Empowerment	Hear	One	Riveted	Unhurried
Breathe	Encouraged	Home	Organic	Rooted	United
Calm	Endure	House	Orientation	Same	Unseen
Captivated	Energized	Identity	Passionate	Secure	Vigor
Centered	Engaged	Imagine	Pause	Shared	Vine
Comfort	Engrossed	Immersed	Peaceful	Silence	Wait
Communal	Enough	Inactivity	Perceive	Single-minded	Watchful
Community	Enthralled	Inhabit	Persist	Soak	Well-being
Complete	Enthusiastic	Instinctive	Place	Solitude	Yield
Concentration	Established	Intentional	Planted	Soul	
Confidence	Examine	Intuitive	Ponder	Source	
Connected	Existence	Joined	Position	Spirit	
Conscious of	Expectation	Known	Presence	Stay	
Consider	Experience	Life	Purpose	Steadfast	



## PRACTICE

- Use the words you identified in a paragraph to describe what it means to abide in Christ. Ignite your creative juices and write a compelling word picture of abiding. Allow your word usage to expand, including fresh, descriptive abiding revelations.
  
- What other words are you compelled to incorporate into your explanation of abiding?
  
- What is God saying to you about abiding more deeply?
  
- How will you live differently?

